



Fact Sheet

Data Entry Centre at the IHEC National Office in Baghdad

The result forms completed during the count in the polling stations immediately following the closing of polls on Election Day 25 July 2009 and those from the special needs voting on 23 July 2009 will be data entered and the results tabulated in the IHEC Data Entry Centre in Baghdad.

How will the Data Entry Centre operate and who manages it ?

Under the direct supervision of the Board of Commissioners the IHEC Data Entry Centre will operate two shifts from 07.00 hrs to 19.00 hrs until all results forms have been data entered and the complaints investigations have been concluded. Approximately 220 employees per shift will e intake, double data entry, scanning and archive the result forms. Supervisors from the IHEC National and Kurdish Regional Offices will supervise all processes.

How are results data entered in the Data Entry Centre ?

Every polling station will produce two Reconciliation & Results Forms, one for the Parliamentary and one for the Presidential election. The original forms are transported to the IHEC Data Entry Centre in Baghdad for data entry and tabulation, while the actual ballots will be stored in IHEC Governorate Warehouses.

All results forms will undergo two separate data entries by different data entry clerks to ensure correct data entry and minimize any opportunity for fraud. Discrepancies between the two entries will be flagged by the software application and corrected by authorised IHEC supervisors and investigators.

Will results of a given polling station be data entered if that polling station is subject to a complaint ?

Yes, if the investigation reveals there was no wrongdoing. If the complaint investigation reveals violations of polling and or counting procedures results for the polling station will be excluded from the overall tabulation depending on the decision of the IHEC Board of Commissioners.

How many Results Forms have to be data entered in the Data Entry Centre ?

There are 5,310 Regular polling stations and 368 Special voting stations. Every polling or special voting station will generate two Reconciliation & Results Forms. The Data Entry Centre expects the delivery of $5,678 \times 2 = 11,356$ Results Forms that will all undergo double data entry and tabulation.

When will results become available ? What are Provisional Results ?

While Results forms are undergoing double data entry, their results data are subsequently verified, audited and compiled in the tabulation database. Updated results for each election, by polling station, will be made available to observers and political entity agents in the Data Entry Centre. They will also be projected on screens.

Provisional results are based on those polling stations that have been successfully processed and data entered. Provisional results will be updated as more polling stations are data entered and processed. The results data entry process should begin commence on 26 July 2009.

When the results data for all polling stations have been data entered and processed, and all complaints resolved by the IHEC Board of Commissioners, the provisional results will become final results.

How and when will we know how many seats a given political entity has gained in the Kurdish Region Parliament ?

Once the final results are available and certified, seats will be allocated pursuant to the IHEC Regulation on Seat Allocation for the Kurdish Region Parliament.

Is the Data Entry Centre accessible for observation ?

Yes. All processes taking place in the Data Entry Centre are subjected to observation by observers, political entity agents and media. Those authorized by IHEC to enter the Data Entry Centre must apply with the relevant department within the IHEC in order to obtain the necessary checkpoint passes for access to the Baghdad International Zone where the IHEC National Office and Data Entry Centre are located. IHEC has undertaken considerable efforts to accommodate political entities who wish to delegate their agents to the Data Entry Centre to observe the results data entry processes.
